WBAI
Folio

from the
Pacifica
Radio Archives

This cover sheet created by
Internet Archive for formatting

FOLIO

WBAI 99.5 FM

THE PROGRAM GUIDE FOR JAN.-FEB. 1998

LISTENER-SUPPORTED RADIO

WBAI: ONWARD AND UPWARD (PAGE 2)

PROGRAM GUIDE & SUPER SPECIALS (PAGES 3-5)

ADVISORY BOARD SEEKS NEW MEMBERS (PAGE 7)

©Chester Higgins Jr.

Mandela's Farewell
A Warrior's Legacy

See Program Highlights, Page 3

WBAI: Onward To The Next Millennium

By Samori Marksman
WBAI Program Director

WBAI's staff wishes to extend our heartfelt love and solidarity to all who continue to make this the most important radio station in the world. And as 1998 takes us closer to the end of this millennium and the dawning of another, we invite you into a closer relationship and even stronger solidarity that will take us into the Year 2000 and far beyond.

In just about a year from now, WBAI will join the other Pacifica stations in marking the 50th anniversary of the founding (in 1949) of the Pacifica Foundation. While some Pacifica and dozens of other community radio stations are trapped in the paralysis of doubt, frustration, surrender and uncertainty about life without, or with reduced, support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, we at WBAI are enthusiastically continuing to pursue a course built principally on strong, expanded programming and an enduring bond with our listeners.

The Course We Set

We set out on this course at the beginning of 1994, when we articulated the following goals:

(1) To increase our listenership by at least 100,000 by the Year 2000;

(2) To triple our subscribership during the same period;

(3) To increase dramatically the capital we raise from our own programming and related activities;

(4) To enhance in fundamental ways the station's ability to have profound impact on the social lives of our listeners–a fulfillment of Pacifica's mission.

When we made these proposals in 1994, we also stressed that **no station could progress beyond the point where we are now unless the surplus generated by listeners' contributions–in excess of each station's budget–was put back into operations to hire new, more competent staff, purchase necessary equipment and promote the station.**

The Strides We Have Made

We at WBAI, executing on our plan, have made spectacular progress. (Please take a good look at the charts provided. They were prepared by Allen Markman, WBAI's subscriptions director, based on verified information from Pacifica headquarters.)

In January 1994, we had a total of 11,600 active subscribers. By 1997, we increased that number to over 17,000.

The largest amount raised in a single fund-raising drive was $406,000 (in January 1991, during the Gulf War). We redefined and retooled our approach to fund-raising, and registered $1 million in January 1996.

In 1995, we took the historic step of organizing an on-air, fund-raising effort to completely rebuild our deteriorated and antiquated studios. No support came to us from Pacifica or from any other source; it was truly an independent effort. We were able, solely with listener support, to install some of the most modern equipment available and even hire two new producers.

Progress and Problems

But there are problems. Given the manner in which Pacifica currently is organized, we have not been able to take full advantage of the windfalls we should yield from the significant strides we have made.

The structure which determines that the local stations pay a percentage of their earnings to the national office for essential services such as legal counsel, insurance, payroll and other critical functions does not permit us to use any additional capital we generate to promote growth and development at the local level.

This quagmire severely limits progress. In effect, it hamstrings our ambitious (and very achievable) 1994 plan. Still, we persevere.

Your Concerns Are Our Concerns

Many of you have been extremely generous in your support of WBAI. Many of you share our concerns and have voiced them. We take you very seriously.

You are correct to express concerns about enhancing WBAI's organic links with various communities. You are correct, too, to point out that this wonderful station should be reaching more listeners than the 200,000 who currently listen to us. In that regard, we ask you to be mindful of a number of critical factors.

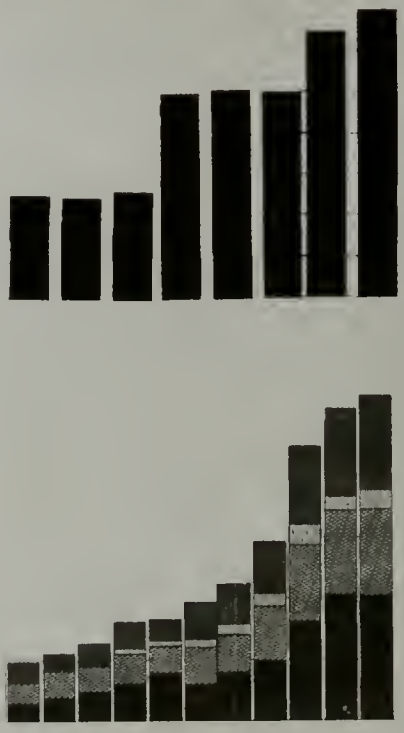
WBAI operates in the densest radio market in the country. We are limited, by the Federal Communications Commission, to a frequency of 50,000 watts. Compare this, for example, to the 112,000 watts owned by our sister station, KPFK, in Los Angeles.

Some have quipped that if the regional population were to be divided mathematically by the number of stations in the New York metropolitan area, the average total would mean that our weekly listener cume would be roughly 240,000.

This issue of expanding our listener base is of great concern to us, and we are committed to pushing in that direction.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

TRACKING OUR PROGRESS



WBAI's progress took a definitive turn in 1994, when we undertook a course of action to put us on the road to growth and progress.

The top chart represents the growth in our fall subscriber base from 1994 to 1997–going from 11,600 to more than 17,000 subscribers.

The bottom chart shows our fund-raising pledge growth from 1987 through 1997. Note the dramatic increases beginning in 1994 to the precedent-setting $1 million raised in our Winter 1996 drive. WBAI has performed at that level, and surpassed it, since then.

STAYING ON COURSE

In January, Special Programs That Sizzle

By Mario A. Murillo
Public Affairs Director

Happy New Year, folks!

As usual, we're kicking off the new year with yet another membership drive loaded with informative, entertaining specials and regularly scheduled programs. Once again, our goal is $1 million. If we make it, it'll be an unprecedented three consecutive million-dollar drives. With your support, we know we can do it.

To achieve our goal, we'll be shifting around the regular program schedule a bit to give producers more space to develop their specials.

From **Jan. 12-29**, there'll be a number of preemptions and some minor time shifts. Stay tuned for details about your favorite programs, but for now mark these dates and times on your calendar so as not to miss some of the best public-affairs shows on the radio dial. (Of course, there'll be a lot more!)

Kwame Brathwaite

The legacy of Winnie and Nelson Mandela is the focus of a special report on Jan. 12. Join Bernard White and Amy Goodman, from 6 a.m. to noon.

MONDAY, JAN. 12

6 a.m. to noon
Wake Up Call/Democracy Now!
Join **Bernard White**, **Amy Goodman** and the entire ***Morning Show*** crew as they kick off the Winter 1998 Membership Drive.
They'll do a special report, ***The Mandelas***, looking at the lives of two of South Africa's most-recognized figures, and the legacy they'll bequeath a new South Africa.
The program will feature highlights of President Nelson Mandela's farewell speech to the 50th Conference of the African National Congress held in December and a roundtable discussion about the future of the ANC and the ongoing struggle to end white supremacy in South Africa.
At 9 a.m., ***Democracy Now!*** continues the discussion on Mandela, the ANC and South Africa, immediately followed by an extended edition of ***Wake Up Call.***

7 p.m. to midnight
Four Directions
Native American lymphologist **Dr. William Martin** will grab you with an extensive look at the spiritual and physical cleansing that is necessary in order to achieve health and wellness. He'll be joined by a number of special guests and will take your calls in this five-hour health workshop on the air.

FUND-RAISING DRIVE
JAN. 12-29

The Gulf War and the current state of affairs in the Middle East on Jan. 20, from 7 p.m. to midnight, with Barbara Nimri Aziz.

TUESDAY, JAN. 13

2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Health Action
Hosts **Bob Lederer**, **Kathy Davis** and **Nicholas Cimorelli** take a close-up look at how combining traditional and Western healing modalities can help you achieve better health, prevent illness, and make coping with chronic disease much easier.

7 p.m. to midnight
Expert Witness
Join **Michael Levine**, 25-year veteran of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and court-certified expert witness, in this five-hour investigation into the U.S. drug war.
Apart from the revelations in his critically acclaimed works *Deep Cover* and *The Big White Lie*, Levine and several special guests will dissect the many contradictions in U.S. drug-control policy and intelligence practices worldwide.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14

2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
The Positive Mind
Host **Armand DiMele** goes to your head in this extended edition of his mind-probing weekly show. Stay tuned for details.

7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Explorations
Dr. Michio Kaku, in this three-hour special, presents a rebroadcast of his exciting four-part series, *"Visions: How Science Will Revolutionize the 21st Century,"* based on the book of the same title.
He also will share never-before-heard material from some of his recent presentations made during his national book tour.

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

7 p.m. to midnight
Afrikaleidescope
On tonight's five-hour special, **Elombe Brath** and company look at recent developments in Africa and feature highlights of an international symposium on Africa held in London in November. Then, they will examine the controversial Steven Spielberg film, ***Amistad***, setting the historical record straight.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

THE WEEK'S PROGRAMMING

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6:00	THROUGH THE OPERA GLASS Regina Fiorito-Sokol Anthony Caggi Manya La Bruja	**WAKE UP CALL** BERNARD WHITE, AMY GOODMAN & SANTIAGO NIEVES (FRIDAY)					HOUR OF THE WOLF (cont.)
7:00							AS I PLEASE Simon Laekle
8:00							
9:00	HERE OF A SUNDAY MORNING Chris Whent	**DEMOCRACY NOW!** Amy Goodman					ANY SATURDAY David Rothenberg
10:00		**MORNING MUSIC**					
11:00	HARD WORK Mike Feder	ALL MIXED UP Peter Bochan	LA NUEVA ALTERNATIVA Gonzalo Aburto	RADIO KANKAAN Diabel Faye	SHOCKING BLUE Delphine Blue		LUNCHPAIL Paul Gorman
Noon	BEYOND THE PALE: THE PROGRESSIVE JEWISH RADIO HOUR (JFREJ) Esther Kaplan, Marilyn Neimark	**NATURAL LIVING** Gary Null					AL LEWIS LIVE
1:00	LATINO JOURNAL Santiago Nieves	TALK MOORE Marjorie Moore	GREY PANTHER REPORT Lydia Bragger HEALTH ACTION Nicholas Cimarelli & Bob Ladene	THE POSITIVE MIND Armand DiMele	URBAN HEALTH BEAT John Harris	HEALTHSTYLES WBAI Nursing and Health Collective	
2:00	RITMO Y ACHE Nancy Rodriguez	BUILDING BRIDGES: YOUR COMMUNITY & LABOR REPORT Ken Nash & Mimi Rosenberg	THE LIZ HOLTZMAN SHOW	ROSEMARI MEALY	WALDEN'S POND Shelton Walden	TBA	RADIO FREE EIREANN Mick Dewan John McDonough
3:00		**TALKBACK!** Utrice Leid & Howard Jordan (Friday)					GUTBUCKET MATINEE Tom Mitchelson Jasper McGruder
4:00	NEW WORLD GALLERY Chico Alvarez	**BEHIND THE NEWS** Samori Marksman, Doug Hemwood, Mario Murillo (Our Americos)					
5:00							
6:00	SUNDAY NEWS	**THE WBAI EVENING NEWS**					LIQUID SOUND LOUNGE Jeannie Hopper
7:00	OUT-FM	FAIR DINKUM Helen Caldicott	EXPERT WITNESS Michael Levine	EXPLORATIONS Dr. Michio Kaku	HOUSING NOTEBOOK Scott Somer	COUNTERSPIN (FAIR) NATION MAGAZINE	
8:00	GOLDEN AGE OF RADIO Max Schmid	4 DIRECTIONS	OFF THE HOOK Emmanuel Goldstein	THE PERSONAL COMPUTER SHOW Joe King, Hank Kee, Dave Burstein	WHERE WE LIVE Sally O'Brien, Sathya Bukhari Alston, Israel Ujima	HOME FRIES Fred Herschkowitz	
9:00	EMANATIONS	CIRCLE OF RED NATIONS Raven	ARAB VOICES, CRESCENT RISING Barbara Nimri Aziz	RADIO BANDUNG	AFRIKALEIDESCOPE Elombe Brath, Dao'iya Lomax		MORNING DEW Lance Neal
10:00	JUST JAZZ Kim Santos	**CITY IN EXILE** Matthew Finch, Janet Coleman, Martha Cinader, David D. Wright & the WBAI Ministry of Culture				JAZZ SAMPLER Bill Farrar	
11:00	STOLEN MOMENTS Mahmoud Ibrahim	**NEWS REBROADCAST**					
Midnight	'NUFF SAID Ken Gale, Ed Menje	HEART TIME Corletta Jay Walker	MOORISH ORTHODOX RADIO CRUSADE Peter Lamborn Wilson, Bill Weinberg, Sharon Gregory, Ann-Marie Hendrickson	EARTHWATCH Robert Knight	RADIO UNNAMEABLE Bob Fass	THE CREATIVE UNITY COLLECTIVE SHOW THE MIDNIGHT RAVERS Terry Wilson, Dro, Ben Mapp, Dred Scott Keyes	LABBRISH Hobte Selossie
1:00	CARRIER WAVE Sidney Smith	PERSON TO PERSON Toni Short Brother Shine	TBA	LET 'EM TALK Paul DeRienzo Fly			
2:00	BACK OF THE BOOK R. Paul Martin						
3:00						LIGHT SHOW Frederick Geobold, Eddie Goldman, Brenda Black, Evan Ginzburg	NIGHTFLYTE Chet Jackson
4:00	EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN David Kenney	MASS BACKWARDS Max Schmid	NIGHT DRUM Brother Shine Sharon L. Harper PUNK & HARDCORE Susan Brown	NIGHTSHIFT Mike Sargent Byron Saunders	CROSSTOWN TRAFFIC Gregary Amani Lace		
5:00						HOUR OF THE WOLF Jim Freund	COSMIK DEBRIS Rocky & Pandora

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Our Americas

All eyes are on Cuba as the historic visit of Pope John Paul II, scheduled for the end of January, draws near. It comes within a month of the 39th anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban Revolution and at a time that the Cuban economy continues to rebound from years of stagnation and U.S.-instigated sanctions.

What impact will the pope's visit have on Cuba's socialist experiment? What has been the nature of the relationship between the church and the government of Cuba?

We'll explore these and other salient issues in this four-hour special edition of ***Our Americas: The Weekly Report on Latin America and the Caribbean***.

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
The Al Lewis Show

Indefatigable **Grandpa** (the role he played in the TV sitcom *The Munsters*) settles into a different time slot this morning and teams up with veteran historian **William Loren Katz** to explore race relations, the human-rights struggle and the failure of schools to adequately educate our children.

1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Radio Free Eireann

Stay tuned for details.

MONDAY, JAN. 19

6 a.m. to noon
Wake Up Call/Democracy Now!

WBAI celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and legacy with this all-day special.

It starts with the morning crew and continues in the afternoon with **Utrice Leid** on ***Talkback*** from 2 to 6 p.m. Stay tuned for more details.

Master drummer Babatunde Olatunji feted on Diabel Faye's *Radio Kankaan* on Jan. 21.

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

7 p.m. to midnight
Arab Voices/Crescent Rising

Barbara Nimri Aziz and friends are in their new time slot and present this special look back at the Gulf War and the current state of affairs in the Middle East–from the current tensions with Iraq to the failure of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

In the Arts, Too, We're Smokin'

By Matthew Finch
Arts Director

As the weather turns colder, there's more reason than ever to huddle up close to the ol' radio.

In December, WBAI premiered its new music program, ***Gutbucket Matinee*** (Saturdays, 3-6 p.m.). Co-hosts **Tom Mitchelson** and **Jasper McGruder** bring a wealth of knowledge to this blues-based program–from music to radio, poetry to theater, teaching to directing, to the fine art of home cooking.

Already, the response to the program has been huge, and the Gutbucket will be open from 1-6 p.m. on Jan. 24 for a special birthday salute to the great broomduster himself, **Elmore James**.

The Liquid Sound Lounge and ***Morning Dew*** will celebrate their expanded Saturday slots with specials on Jan. 17, 5 p.m. to midnight ("Morning Dew"), and the following Saturday, the 24th, 6 p.m. to midnight ("Liquid Lounge").

Delphine Blue will bring her yearly countdown, ***The Best of '97***, into fund-raising mode in four specials–Jan. 15, 16, 22 and 23.

Diabel Faye will celebrate master drummer **Babatunde Olatunji** on ***Radio Kankaan*** Jan. 21.

All five broadcasters will kick off at the usual ***Morning Music*** time of 10 a.m.

Also, look for specials from **Manya** (Jan. 18), **Fred Herschkowitz** (Jan. 16), ***City In Exile*** (Jan. 22), **Charles Whent**, **Nancy Rodriguez**, ***The Golden Age of Radio***, ***Through the Opera Glass*** (all on Jan. 25)–and more!

After the drive, you can look forward to the planned returns of ***The Ring*** and **J. Smooth**'s ***Underground Railroad***.

W H O W E A R E

General Manager: Valerie van Isler Program Director: Samori Marksman Development Assistant: Donna Niemann Business Director: Sybil Wong Arts Director: Matthew Finch Public Affairs Director: Mario Alfonso Murillo News Director: Jose Santiago News Editor: David Sears News Reporters: Paul DeRienzo, Zachary Fink · Operations Director: Paul Wunder Operations Assistants: Max Schmid, Sidney Smith, Tom Whelan, Wake Up Call: Bernard White, Amy Goodman, Errol Maitland, Leslie George (A) Talkback: Howard Jordan, Utrice C. Leid Maintenance Engineer: Graden Challenger Production Engineers: Dred Scott Keyes, Gary Helm Chief Announcer: Michael G. Haskins (A) Receptionist: Fred Kuhn Premiums Coordinator: Cassandra Perkins Subscriptions Director: Allen Markman Data Entry: Stephanie McDonald, James Hibler Major Gifts Director: Gabrielle Hanna Subscriptions Volunteers: Sharon Thomas, T. Tucker, Mathilde Thoraldsen

PRODUCERS

Arts Department: Chico Alvarez, Gregory Amani, Joan Baker, Brenda Black, Rodney Black, Peter Bochan, Susan Brown, Martha Cinader, Anthony Coggi, Janet Coleman, Peggy Dominique, David Dozer, Dro, Bill Farrar, Diabel Faye, Jim Freund, Dallas Galvin, Amanda Gersh, Evan Ginzburg, Eddie Goldman, Jeannie Hopper, Joseph, Hurley, Mahmoud Ibrahim, Chet Jackson, David Kenney, Fred Kuhn, Manya La Bruja, Lace, Mark Laiosa, Yusef Lamont, Michael Mabern, Ben Mapp, Darrell McNeill, Kyle McNeill, Stephen Marshall, Jasper McGruder, Edward Menje, Praire Miller, Tom Mitchelson, Lance Neal, Wendy Perron, Valecia Phillips, John Randolph, Shawn Rhodes, Nancy Rodriguez, Lee Ryan, Kim Santos, Max Schmid, James P. Sherman, Regina Fiorito-Sokol, Spyder Blue, Sidney Smith, Carletta Joy Walker, Leontyne Watts, Gary Weston Wagner, Chris Whent, Malika Lee Whitney, Terry Wilson, David Wright, Paul Wonder

Live Radio Department: Playthell Benjamin, L. King Downing, Bob Fass, Mike Feder, Eleanor Elizabeth Forman, Jim Freund, U.T. Good, Paul Gorman, Michael G. Haskins, Fred Herschkowitz, Sharan Harper, John Harris, Kim Monique Johnson, Robert Knight, Simon Loekle, R. Paul Martin, Rosemari Mealy, Marjorie Moore, Pandora, Bill Propp, Rooky, Mike Sergeant, Habte Selassie, Bro. Shine, Toni Short, Judith Sloan, Peter Smith, Chris Taylor, Carletta Joy Walker, Paul Williams, Peter Lamborn Wilson

News Department: Ben Carliner, De Ann Daigle, John Hess, James Hibler, Gabrielle Koren, Ser Pomville, Ed Santiago, James P. Sherman

Public Affairs Department: Gonzalo Aburto, Angelica Aquino Gonzalez, Barbara Nimri Aziz, Marle Becker, Phyllis Bennis, Lydia Bragger, Elombe Brath, Ahnenoi Brooks, J.K. Bryant, Safiya Bukhati, Dave Burstein, Helen Caldicott, Marc Antonio Akam Chen, Nicholas Cimorelli, Evelyn Tully Costa, Lloyd D'Aguilar, Patrika Dallas, Kathy Davis, Fielding Dawson, Stevie Debe, Paul deRienzo, Armand DiMele, Mick Dewan, Laura Flanders, Leslie George, Sara Gil, Barbara Glickstein, Tony Glover, Amy Goodman, Burt Harbin, Michael G. Haskins, Jesse Heiwa Loving, Wanda Henderson, Doug Henwood, Del Hornbuckle, Michio Kaku, Esther Kaplan, Lisa Kato, Hank Kee, Dred Scott Keyes, Joe King, Nancy M. Kirton, Bob Lederer, Sunyoung Lee, Al Lewis, Michael Levine, Joung Yoon Lym, John McDonagh, Marcia McBroom, Errol Maitland, Melissa Mark Viverito, Diana Mason, Brian Mor, Cait Mullen, Ken Nash, Marilyn Neimark, Sally O'Brien, Pepperpot, Carlos Andres Perez, Raven, George Reilly, Cerene H. Roberts, Mimi Rosenberg, Paul Ruest, Pedro Angel Serrano, Rick Shur, R. Silva, Scott Sommer, Amy Standen, Heather Stewart, Bob Storm, Harriet Tanzman, Laura Tarantini, Israel Ujima, Shelton Walden, Tom Wisker, Rick X.

ENGINEERS

Eliza Butler, Steyen Jackman, Peggy Dominique, E. E. Forman, Jake Glanz, Ulysses T. Good, Claude Horvath, M. Saidia McLaughlin, Lance Neal, Valecia Phillips, Paul Ruest, Spyder Blue Rider, Carletta Joy Walker, George Wellington, Sound Gatherers (Yusef Aziz, Goldie Williams, Crispin Nedd, Melvin Simmons [Project Director], Oscar "Lumumba" Guzman, John Holder, Asuka)

BOARD MEMBERS

WBAI Local Board: Heather Abramson, Andrea Cisco, Dick Demenus, Anne Emerman (Secretary), Karen Frillmann, William Henning, Michio Kaku, Hank Kee, Cecelia McCall, Lynne McVeigh, Frank Millspaugh, Andrew Norris, Mimi Rosenberg, Nan Rubin (Chair), Eugene Straus, Sybil Wong, Frieda Zames

Pacifica National Board: David Acosta, David Assman, Mary Frances Berry (Chair), Roberta Brooks, Alexis Gonzalez, Cecelia McCall, Frank Millspaugh, Dorothy Nasitir, Roger Scarhrough At Large: June Makela, Loretta Ross

WBAI Radio is a 50,000-watt, listener-supported, community radio station broadcasting to the metropolitan areas of New York and New Jersey, and parts of Pennsylvania and Connecticut. WBAI Radio is licensed to the Pacifica Foundation and broadcasts at a frequency of 99.5 MHz. The WBAI Folio is published bimonthly by WBAI Radio and is distributed to all members. Subscriptions are available at the rate of $50/year ($25 for students and seniors), $2 of which underwrites the cost of one year's Folio subscription. Second-class postage paid in New York, NY. ISSN# 0005-272. Postmaster, please send all address changes to: WBAI Radio, 505 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10018, (212) 279-0707.

WBAI Folio: (212) 279-0707 ext. 146.

Pacifica sister stations: KPFA 94.1 FM, Berkeley (501) 848-6767; KPFT 90.1 FM, Houston (713) 525-4000; WPFW 89.3 FM, Washington, D.C. (202) 588-0999; KPFK 90.7 FM, Los Angeles (818) 985-2711.

Pacifica Program Service & Archives: 3729 Cahuenga Boulevard West, North Hollywood, CA 91604 (818) 506-1077.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

We also are prepared to work even more closely with our colleagues at other Pacifica stations. Indeed, we already are. We have encouraged the airing nationally of Gary Null's program and are working aggressively to ensure maximum input into *Democracy Now!*. Both programs currently are on our sister station, WPFW in Washington, D.C., and are making great impact on its listenership.

Without You, There's No WBAI, No Pacifica

WBAI and every other Pacifica station continues to face enormous difficulty. We remind you that while much is to be done to correct problems on the home front, it is equally important to point out that we could never *be* Pacifica were we to subject ourselves to what every humane economist sees as the crassness of modern corporate capitalism.

WBAI would not be able to provide uncontaminated reports on AIDS, the outbreak of IMF control, the trials and triumphs of the American working people.

It would not be able to unmask national hypocrisy through theater and music, elevate the social value of the people's art, examine the plight of poor people on welfare, or the conflicts over our school systems.

WBAI would not be able to provide authoritative accounts of the prison-industrial complex, or deconstruct the theories of race in America, or demystify the grotesque distortions of ethnic classification, or advance the rights of women, or bring us the clearest and most informed views of developments in virtually every part of this planet.

We suggest, echoing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s lasting paradigm, that we be judged not by how much farther we need to go but by how far, and from what depths, we indeed have come.

In only a few short years, we've brought ourselves from an underperforming, underproducing station to what we are today: the leading station within all of Pacifica! We have the largest listenership. We generate the most money. And many of the programs we produce continue to have greater impact on listeners–both in our market and in other cities.

We ask that you join your hands with ours so that together we will continue to move with confidence into the next millennium.

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU

Come fund-raising time (Jan. 12-29), we've just gotta have your help to answer phones, take pledges, and be nice and calm while all hell breaks loose. Up to the challenge? Call (212) 279-0707 and say, "Count on me!" to our Volunteers Coordinator, Donna Niemann.

For Advisory Board, A Full Plate In '98

By Nan Rubin
Chair, Local Advisory Board

Happy New Year!

Having just come out of a year of major transitions, the WBAI Local Advisory Board (LAB) is looking at a full plate for 1998, paralleling many of the challenges and opportunities facing the station as a whole.

Our role is a singular one. We are an advisory committee made up of listeners and supporters from the WBAI listening area, and are charged by the Governing Board of the Pacifica Foundation to "review the programming goals and service of the station and ... advise how the station might better meet the educational and cultural needs of the communities served by WBAI."

Given the tremendous variety, diversity, geographic spread and range of interests, experiences and passions held by WBAI listeners (you know who you are!) and the broad sweep of the station's programming, coming up with valid methods to reflect the sometimes conflicting needs of the audience is one of the most critical and difficult challenges we face.

But it is not our only task. Here are some of the projects we'll be dealing with this year.

Creating useful mechanisms to solicit, analyze and report on audience concerns

There certainly is no shortage of listeners' programming ideas and opinions, but it is not the responsibility of the LAB to assess individual programs or programmers. Instead, we have the much more difficult and ill-defined task of looking at broader programming goals and comparing them to what is on the air, or not on the air but should be–like the longstanding complaint about the need for more coverage of issues and events in New Jersey.

We are trying to bring a broader view of issues to the discussion of programming by using many channels for recording listener input, and then being creative in reporting our findings to the staff and back to you, the listeners. Wish us luck; this is totally uncharted territory in public broadcasting. Stay tuned, though, because we hope to be very vocal during the year about what YOU have to say.

Assisting the station in making a successful move to 120 Wall St.

Acting with the expressed mandate of the WBAI staff, members of the LAB Space and Technical Committee spent nearly two full years searching for a new home for the station. We were delighted to secure the outstanding and extremely affordable half-floor in the Association Building, at 120 Wall St., when it became available last summer.

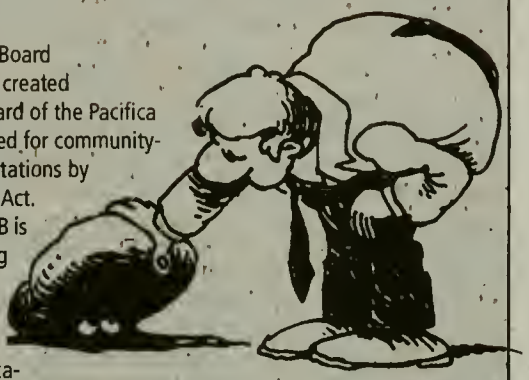
Not only were we able to negotiate an incredibly favorable 15-year lease (more than 50 percent more space for virtually the same rent we are paying now), but WBAI will be joining other esteemed tenants in this non-profit center such as *City Limits* magazine, the Ms. Foundation, the National Urban League and International Planned Parenthood.

Since then, our committee has kept up the pace by working closely with the project architect, engineers and other planning and construction staff to help design an attractive, new WBAI space that will have great studios and comfortable, functional working areas–

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

A bit shy about becoming involved? All we want is your advice!

WBAI'S LOCAL ADVISORY BOARD IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS



The Local Advisory Board (LAB) is a committee created by the Governing Board of the Pacifica Foundation as required for community-based broadcasting stations by the Communications Act. The mission of the LAB is to assist the Governing Board of the Pacifica Foundation by:

- Reviewing the program goals of the station;
- Reviewing the service provided by the station to our listeners;
- Reviewing the policy decisions made by the Governing Board;
- Advising and recommending to the Governing Board how the station might better meet the educational and cultural needs of the communities served by WBAI;
- Assisting WBAI with fund-raising activities;
- Representing WBAI to the community;
- Assuming other responsibilities assigned by the Governing Board.

The LAB consists of between 15 and 30 members drawn from many different parts of the listening audience and from across the New York region. It meets regularly throughout the year to plan and implement its activities, make recommendations and prepare its reports. Members serve one or more three-year terms.

New members will:

- Bring greater age, gender and ethnic diversity to the LAB;
- Develop new leadership;
- Strengthen the skills and resources available to WBAI.

We are especially interested in attracting:

- People of color and listeners involved with different ethnic and cultural communities;
- Residents of the "outer boroughs" of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut;
- Supporters with skills in non-profit management, fund-raising or public relations;
- People interested in promoting WBAI and in interacting with its audience.

If you or someone you know would like to join the WBAI Local Advisory Board, we'd love to hear from you! Write or call:

Nan Rubin, Chair , WBAI Local Advisory Board, c/o 122 W. 27th St., 10th Floor, New York, NY 10001. (212) 463-7411.

Anne Emerman, WBAI Board Membership Committee, 333 E. 30th St., New York, NY. 10018

not to mention a great view! The need to find furnishings, acquire new equipment and add aesthetic decoration undoubtedly will extend well beyond the May moving date.

Spearheading the Capital Campaign

While WBAI has an excellent agreement with the landlord to cover the construction costs to build out the new space, the rest of the expenses must be met by the station.

The LAB has committed itself to leading the effort to raise $350,000 to complete the station interiors and other needed purchases. The Capital Campaign, active throughout the year, already has received commitments from longtime station supporters Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee and Susan Sarandon. Look for announcements about an Open House in the new space sometime in February!

Rebuilding the LAB

Last year, through a combination of circumstances, the LAB found itself reduced from a strong membership of more than 21 members to fewer than 15 active members. In addition, a significant number of long-term members will have to leave the LAB early this year, when their second three-year term expires. So, we began an aggressive recruitment campaign to rebuild the LAB with a broader and more representative group of members.

The response has been extremely gratifying. At our last meeting in 1997, we elected Andrew Norris, Heather Abramson and Andrea Cisco as new members (they will begin their terms in January), and at our first meeting in 1998, four or five additional listeners will be nominated. New faces include two people from Rockland County, a member of the Rutgers faculty, a 25-year-old new listener, and longtime supporters engaged in peace activism, advocacy for the homeless and similar political issues.

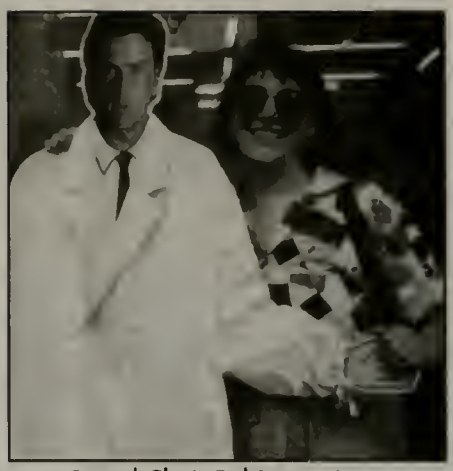
This is just a start, though–which still leaves the LAB with a lot of room. Our goal is to add at least six new people during the year.

Improving our voice with the Governing Board

This past year, the relationship between the WBAI LAB and the Pacifica Governing Board was mixed. The LAB had tried without success to get the Governing Board to take some positive actions on important issues at WBAI, such as the management-labor conflict; the battle made public between WBAI's public affairs director, Mario Murillo, and Pacifica's national programming director, Gail Christian; and improving the image of the station with contributors and donors.

More positively, the Governing Board gave the LAB a vote of confidence by approving the lease and construction for the new space (though with less funding than promised); the LABs now have a permanent place at the table through the newly created Council of Chairs (with me acting as unofficial spokesperson); and we have been asked to review and make recommendations about the governance of the organization–a major source of conflict.

Early in 1998, Dr. Mary Frances Berry, the newly elected National Chair, will be visiting us in New York. We look forward to meeting with her and expressing our concerns about the station.



Board Chair Rubin cuts it up with "dear friend" Charlie Sheen.

Not to let any of these concerns rest, we intend to stay very visible with the Governing Board, both through our selected representatives and our own positions.

Working with the staff on WBAI's five-year plan

Finally, in tandem with our own mandate to look at the issues relating to WBAI's programming and service, we share the strong desire to bring more listeners into the WBAI audience by strengthening the station's programming.

The staff is involved with an ongoing planning process, which ultimately will produce a set of shared goals and aspirations that can guide the station in the immediate future. We will participate in those aspects of the planning that are appropriate, especially to create useable mechanisms to convey "advice" about listeners' concerns in a supportive (as opposed to being judgmental or intrusive) way.

As you can see, we have a lot of work ahead of us. We're just a handful of people and can use your help! There are many areas in which you can get involved–from contributing your artistic talents decorating the new studios or setting up a house party for the Capital Campaign in your region, to helping design a listener survey or even applying to become a member of the LAB.

Feel free to contact me about any area of LAB activity that might pique your interest (WBAI Local Advisory Board, c/o Community Media Services, 122 W. 27th St., 10th Fl., New York, NY 10001. (212) 463-7411; fax (212) 741-4563; E-mail, NanRubin@aol.com).

And, as always, keep listening!

Pacifica Radio WBAI 99.5 FM
505 Eighth Avenue
New York, NY 10018

Second Class Postage Paid
0005-272
New York, NY

NEWSPAPER DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

WBAI
Folio

from the
Pacifica
Radio Archives

This cover sheet created by
Internet Archive for formatting